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CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING

REMOVAL OF INHABITANTS

OF

POLYNESIAN ISLANDS

TO

PERU.

Presented to the House of Commons by Command of Her Majesty, in pursuance of their Address dated February 16, 1864.

LONDON:
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RETURN to an Address of the Honourable the House of Commons, dated February 16, 1864;

for—

"A Copy or Extracts of Correspondence between the Foreign Office and Her Majesty's Representative to the Peruvian Government, in reference to Outrages on the Inhabitants of the Polynesian Islands by Peruvian subjects, in the South Pacific."

No. 1.

Mr. Barton to Earl Russell.—(*Received June* 28.)

My Lord, *Lima, May* 29, 1862.

I HAVE just been informed that Mr. Byrne has formed a Company here with the object of introducing into Peru colonists from the New Hebrides for the purpose of agriculture, under the privilege granted him by the Peruvian Government, and that he has chartered a vessel which is now victualling, and in which will be also embarked some trifles, such as beads and other articles, for the carrying out of the enterprise.

I intend writing Mr. Byrne a note requesting information, and will furnish your Lordship with all the particulars I can collect on this subject by the next mail.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN BARTON.

No. 2.

Mr. Barton to Earl Russell.—(*Received July* 14.)

My Lord, *Lima, June* 11, 1862.

IN continuation of the subject of the despatch which I had the honour to address to your Lordship on the 29th of May last, I have now the honour to acquaint your Lordship that I find that Mr. J. C. Byrne became a French citizen in 1857, since which time he has introduced into the French Settlement of New Caledonia upwards of 3,000 colonists taken from the New Hebrides.

The vessel he is now fitting out is a Peruvian vessel called the "Adelante," of about 300 tons; she will sail from Callao on Saturday next, and Mr. Byrne takes with him a surgeon and commissioner on the part of the Peruvian Government; it is his intention to bring about 170 colonists of both sexes, who are to engage to serve in Peru for the term of five years, at the end of which term they are to be sent back to their own country if they wish it, at the expense of the purchaser of their contract, which is printed in Spanish, English, and the Polynesian languages, and which is of course transferable.

The privilege granted by the Peruvian Government to Mr. Byrne is for the term of five years.

Mr. Byrne has informed me that after he has made this trial trip he intends introducing as many colonists into Peru as he finds are requisite.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN BARTON.

No. 3.

Mr. Barton to Earl Russell.—(*Received November* 14.)

My Lord, *Lima, October* 11, 1862.

IN continuation of the subject of the despatches which I had the honour to address to your Lordship on the 29th of May and on the 11th of June last, I have now the honour to acquaint your Lordship that the Peruvian vessel "Adelante" has returned to the Port of Callao, from the Island of Tangariba, bringing 83 men, 83 women, 30 boys, and 38 children; the vessel is only 151 tons register, not 300 as reported to me by Mr. Byrne. Only one died on the passage—a very old woman.

The contracts, said to be written in Spanish and Polynesian, of these colonists, have been sold at 200 dollars each the men, 150 dollars each the women, and 100 dollars each the boys; care has been taken not to part the families.

No less than seven vessels have been fitted out, and three more are getting ready by licences granted by the Peruvian Government, for the purpose of bringing to Peru more of these people; their names, tonnage, flags, &c., are contained in the accompanying list.

The Chargé d'Affaires of the King of Hawaii has made a remonstrance to the Peruvian Government on this subject, copy of which I have the honour to inclose herewith, and the French Chargé d'Affaires intends to make a like representation.

Mr. Byrne died on board the "Adelante" about fifteen days previous to the arrival of that vessel at Callao; his effects have been deposited under inventory at Her Majesty's Consulate in that port, and advice given to his brother, Mr. Mark Byrne, residing at 24, Arran Quay, Dublin.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN BARTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 3.

List of Vessels Fitted out to Import Colonists into Peru.

Name of Vessel.	Tonnage.	Flag.	Crew.	Date of Departure.
Jorge Zahara	171	Peruvian	17	1862, September 22
Manuelita Costas	132	,,	9	,, ,, 23
Serpiente Maria	198	,,	15	,, ,, 26
Truxillo	197	,,	9	,, ,, 28
Apurimac	189	,,	8	,, ,, 28
Eliza Mason	183	Chilian	11	,, October 2
Bella Margarita	286	,,	13	,, ,, 4

Inclosure 2 in No. 3.

Mr. Eldridge to Señor Ribeyro.

Lima, October 9, 1862.

THE Undersigned, Chargé d'Affaires and Consul-General of His Majesty the King of Hawaii, has been informed with some surprise that the Government of Peru has conceded indiscriminately to all applicants, licences to introduce into Peru the natives of the Polynesian Islands for personal services for several years.

His Majesty the King of Hawaii, besides the large and important group of islands from which he derives his title, possesses other islands in the Pacific Ocean, of the occupation of some of which I had the honour to advise his Excellency the Minister of Foreign Relations in my communication of 30th December, 1858.

It is not improbable that while this traffic, entrusted to one or two individuals well acquainted with its peculiarities, having a perfect knowledge of the islands that enjoy their independence, and those which recognize the sovereignty of a civilized power, might have been conducted in a manner that would not have given cause of complaint, but confided to an indiscriminate multitude, ignorant of these particulars, it will, beyond doubt, lead to serious reclamations.

From none of the islands under the jurisdiction of His Majesty the King of Hawaii are the native inhabitants permitted to be removed, except for a very limited term, and under heavy bonds to be returned to their place of residence at the expiration of that term; the undersigned, therefore, is constrained to protest against the introduction into Peru of any of His Majesty's native subjects; and if any should be brought to its ports under the licences so profusedly granted, it will be his duty to require that the Government of Peru cause them to be returned to their native land free of expense, and compensate them adequately for any damages that they may have suffered.

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOS. R. ELDREDGE.

No. 4.

Earl Russell to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir, *Foreign Office, November* 26, 1862.

IN his despatch of May 29, Mr. Barton has reported to me that under a privilege granted by the Peruvian Government, Mr. Byrne has formed a Company at Lima for the purpose of introducing into Peru colonists from the New Hebrides.

From Mr. Barton's despatch of the 11th ultimo, it also appears that no less than seven vessels have been fitted out, and three more were getting ready, under licences granted by the Peruvian Government, for the purpose of conveying these colonists to Peru.

Mr. Barton also states that the Chargé d'Affaires of Haiti has formally protested against these proceedings, and that the French Chargé d'Affaires intended to make a similar representation.

You will carefully watch the proceedings taken under the privilege granted by the Peruvian Government in this matter. Her Majesty's Government have already had occasion to call the attention of the Peruvian Government to the evils which have sprung up in connection with the efforts made for the introduction of coolies from China; and it is not improbable that the system to which I have now called your attention may degenerate into the slave trade in disguise.

You will forward to me a copy of the contract under which the colonists are introduced, and you will report to me what arrangements are made to insure their immunity from ill-treatment whilst on ship-board, as well as subsequent to their arrival in Peru.

I am, &c.

(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 5.

Mr. Jerningham to Earl Russell.—(Received November 29.)

My Lord, *London, November* 27, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to state that your Lordship's despatch of 26th November reached me this evening, in which my attention is called to a report mentioned in Mr. Barton's despatch of May 29 to your Lordship, respecting a privilege said to have been conceded by the Peruvian Government to a Mr. Byrne, who had formed a Company at Lima for the purpose of introducing into Peru colonists from the New Hebrides.

Since your Lordship instructs me carefully to watch the proceedings taken under the privilege granted by the Peruvian Government in this affair, it being not improbable that the system, to which my notice has been called, may degenerate into slave trade in disguise, I beg to say that, upon my arrival in Peru, I will give this matter my earliest attention.

A copy of the contract, as soon as procured, shall be forwarded to your Lordship; and I shall report what are the arrangements made to ensure immunity from ill-treatment whilst on board and subsequent to arrival with regard to these colonists.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

No. 6.

Mr. Barton to Earl Russell.—(Received November 28.)

My Lord, *Lima, October* 23, 1862.

IN continuation of the subject of my despatch of the 11th instant, I have now the honour to transmit to your Lordship copy of the note which the French Chargé d'Affaires

addressed to the Peruvian Minister for Foreign Affairs, respecting the licences granted indiscriminately by the Peruvian Government to introduce into Peru natives from the Polynesian Islands.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN BARTON.

Inclosure in No. 6.

M. de Lesseps to Señor Ribeyro.

M. le Ministre, *Lima, le 15 Octobre*, 1862.

VOTRE Excellence n'ignore pas qu'en vertu d'une autorisation antérieure donnée par son Gouvernement à un sujet Irlandais, la barque Péruvienne "Adelante" parcourut certains groupes d'Iles de la Polynésie et y recueillit environ 250 naturels. Conduits au Callao sous la clause d'un engagement de cinq années, ces émigrants ne tardèrent pas à être écoulés dans le public, satisfait d'acquérir, aux mêmes conditions que celles stipulées pour les contrats de coolies Chinois, les services d'une race d'hommes plus vigoureuse et plus morale.

C'est sans doute animé par le désir de doter le pays d'une immigration aussi utile que le Gouvernement de votre Excellence a souscrit, assure-t-on, aux nombreuses demandes d'introduction qui lui ont été adressées, dans ces derniers temps, par divers spéculateurs. Dans cette circonstance, et sans m'arrêter aux bruits répandus sur la légalité de l'expédition de "l'Adelante," ni infirmer le rapport de la commission d'enquête qui s'est constituée à bord de ce bâtiment dans le courant du mois de Septembre dernier, il est de mon devoir d'appeler votre attention toute spéciale sur l'abus auquel ces concessions peuvent donner lieu. En effet, M. le Ministre, rien ne garantit que les porteurs aient une connaissance très-exacte de la constitution politique des divers points où s'exercera leur trafic, et qu'ils n'exploiteront pas celles de ces Iles qui, sous une forme ou sous une autre, se trouvent enclavées dans le territoire de l'Empire Français. Votre Excellence trouvera juste que, dans cette éventualité, je proteste contre ces opérations, en tant qu'elles affecteraient la souveraineté de mon pays, et que je me réserve à la fois un droit de contrôle sur tous transports d'émigrants Polynésiens arrivant au Pérou, et des indemnités pour ceux d'entr'eux qui, soumis à la juridiction de l'Empire, n'auraient pas quitté leur patrie de plein gré et du consentement des autorités qui les gouvernent.

J'ai, &c.
(Signé) ED. DE LESSEPS.

No. 7.

Mr. Jerningham to Earl Russell.—(Received March 2.)

My Lord, *Lima, January 28*, 1863.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of 26th November last, received in London prior to my departure from England, instructing me carefully to watch the proceedings taken under the privilege granted by the Peruvian Government to certain parties for importing Polynesian colonists to Peru, I beg to state that since my return I have given the subject my attention.

Soon after my arrival, when visiting Admiral Sir Thomas Maitland on Her Britannic Majesty's ship "Bacchante," I conversed with him about these new emigration enterprizes, and found him alive to the matter; however, Sir Thomas seemed to think that there was difficulty in obtaining here positive information as to whether the Pacific Islanders that were being imported into Peru, were procured by force or came of their own free will, and said that the best way for ascertaining this, would be the visit of one of Her Majesty's ships to the Polynesian Islands, where her commander could have, by making enquiries, proof how the process of obtaining the natives was carried on, and detect and report upon any such abuses as might be practised.

In this opinion of the Admiral I most assuredly concur, and could a vessel be despatched to the islands (Marquesas, Friendly, and New Hebrides groups) to carry out an investigation, it would be the surest and best way of arriving at real trustworthy information.

In speaking with the French Chargé d'Affaires, M. Lesseps, on the subject of this

immigration, I found him inclined to believe that *ruse* is had recourse to in obtaining them; and he even told me that the way in which the affair was managed was when the natives, swimming out probably to the ship for the sake of procuring provisions, as a famine or great scarcity is said to reign in some of these islands, that liquor was administered to them, and that whilst under its influence the vessel put to sea, and thus the natives had no other alternative but to proceed on the voyage. The French Chargé d'Affaires did not mention the grounds he had for making this assertion; but as he has lent much of his attention to these Canaca expeditions since the commencement, he has probably discovered sources from whence good information can be procured.

Her Majesty's Acting Consul at Callao upon being applied to by me, on my return, furnished me with a report, copy of which I beg to inclose, relative to two vessels that had returned to Callao having Polynesians on board; but this does not throw any light upon the exact way in which they were procured. He also incloses sample of a contract, bearing the signatures of natives, and also that of the Captain of the importing vessel, and viséd by the Indian authority of some island.

Mr. Robertson says in his letter that the emigrants appeared in robust health.

M. Laranaga, the consignee, seems to have afforded the Consul every facility for visiting his vessel, and it appears he found on board nothing to object to.

This gentleman above-mentioned and other owners of vessels, may have the wish to carry out their enterprize according to the Rules and Regulations of the Peruvian Government Licences; but then the people they employ may possibly be less scrupulous upon those points. I believe in one of the ships that have gone and returned (belonging to some one in Peru) there was a captain who had formerly been engaged in the African slave trade.

I shall continue to watch proceedings in this matter; but I am convinced that the only real way of arriving at thorough information on the subject is, as I said before, to despatch a vessel of war to make an investigation in Oceania.

I have now the honour to forward to your Lordship several extracts from the "Peruano." 1st. The law permitting the introduction into Peru of Asiatic colonists, the fundamental law upon which the licences for bringing Polynesians are based.

2nd. The Government resolution granting leave to Mr. Byrne to import colonists from the Pacific.

3rd. Note from the Peruvian Government to the Prefect of Callao to take the necessary steps for causing the existing Laws and Resolutions to be carried out with regard to the Polynesians brought from the Pacific.

4th. A Decree of the 20th December, published lately in the "Peruano," ordering that a Committee, composed of the Prefect, the Mayor, and the Recorder of the city of Callao, should proceed to make the investigation which was resolved upon in June, in order to ascertain whether or no the formalities prescribed by law have been fulfilled. This decree is intended to apply to other ports in Peru where the Sub-Prefect and other functionaries will compose the acting Committee.

Lastly. I inclose copy of the form of contract, lent for my inspection by the consignee of immigration vessels, which is made out printed in Spanish and English, but not in Polynesian, as it was reported was to be the case. I send the English version after having compared it with the Spanish, of which it is a right translation.

Should I have anything further to communicate later on respecting Polynesian immigration, I shall take care to do so in obedience to your Lordship's orders.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

P.S.—In the body of this despatch I state that Mr. Robertson had already been on board of M. Laranaga's vessel, but upon reading his letter again I find that M. Laranaga had given him permission to go on board to examine and inquire into matters connected with the Polynesians, and that he would report to me the result of his visit.

W. S. J.

Inclosure 1 in No. 7.

Acting Consul Robertson to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir, *Callao, January* 11, 1863.

I HAVE the honour to report that on the 5th instant, two vessels, under Prussian colours named respectively "The General Prim" and "Truxillo," arrived at this port from the Polynesian Islands with colonists, natives of those islands.

The first-named vessel brought 106 men, 2 boys, and 7 women, all having arrived in apparent robustness and good health, there not having been in either two vessels any death or sickness whatever.

These colonists have been brought to this Republic in virtue of a permission granted by the Supreme Government in the early part of last year.

M. Laranaga, one of the Consignees of the "Truxillo," a gentleman worthy of all faith, has assured me that these colonists have come here of their own free will and accord, in proof of which he has allowed me to take a copy of one of the contracts made by a chief and a missionary on behalf of 40 men, and 12 women, brought from the Island of Rakaan (Redmon), copy of which I inclose. M. Laranaga has also given me permission to proceed on board the "Truxillo," that I may personally examine and inquire into all matters connected with the traffic, the result of which examination I shall do myself the honour to report; the same gentleman has assured me that many of these colonists can write, and that all those who could, have individually their own contracts in their possession.

I should likewise add that I have already seen many of these emigrants, and that they appear in good health, happy, and content.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. W. ROBERTSON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 7.

Contract.

LOS cuarenta hombres y doce mujeres que van en el "Truxillo" de la Isla de Rakaan se contratan con el capitan de dicho buque previa autoridad del lugar para irse al Peru á trabajar en la agricultura del pays por el termino de ocho años, contados desde su embarque. Los hombres gaudean 5 $ al mes, y un pantalon, una camisa, y un sombrero. Las mujeres, 2 $ y un vestido.

Firmamos tres por el tenor, por el Rey y el misionero y el capitan.

Rakaan, Noviembre 15 *de* 1862.

(Signed) JOSE H. BARAGOITIA, *Capitan.*
ZAIRI CROMETICA.
ZOCAO AIKI.

Nota.—Las firmas son del misionero y el Rey de la Isla.

Inclosure 3 in No. 7.

Extracts from the "Peruano" of March 23, 1861.

Ramon Castilla, President of the Republic.

WHEREAS the Congress has made the following law:—

The Congress of the Peruvian Republic considering

1. That the first branch of industry is agriculture, without which no society can exist.

2. That in consequence of the abolition of slavery, which was effected in the Republic in 1855, landed estates have been abandoned.

3. That the want of a rural ordinance, which shall take charge of determining the proceedings of hired labourers, and regulating the labours on landed estates, renders it necessary to take steps for remedying the present state of things.

4. That if the Congress remain indifferent, and do not repeal the decree of March 5, 1856, articles of consumption, and of the first necessity for existence, will very soon reach a higher price than it is possible to pay out of the employment or calling in which the citizen is engaged;

Has issued the following law:—

Art. 1. It shall be lawful to introduce Asiatic colonists, intended for the cultivation of landed estates on the coasts of Peru, for useful arts, and for domestic service, provided that they be hired directly by the masters who employ them, or by their agents, in the ports from whence they come, or on their entrance to Peru.

Art. 2. The vessels conveying Asiatics, shall not take on board any larger number

of colonists than one per ton of register, under the penalty of a fine of 500 dollars for every one who shall exceed the number.

Art. 3. The bargains made abroad shall take effect in all cases when not in opposition to the laws of the Republic, the transfer of such bargains being prohibited without the consent of the colonist hired.

Art. 4. The Decree of 5th March 1856, relative to the immigration of Asiatic colonists, is repealed, in so far as it is contrary to the present law.

This is to be communicated to the Executive Power in order to the execution of what is necessary for carrying the same into effect.

Dated at the Hall of Assembly in Lima, 15th January, 1861.

MIGUEL DEL CARPIO,
President of the Senate.
ANTONIO ARENAS,
President of the Chamber of Deputies.
JOSE H. CORNEJO,
Secretary of the Senate.
MANUEL A. ZARRATE,
Secretary of the Chamber of Deputies.

To His Excellency the President of the Republic.

Lima, January 24, 1861.

Let it be returned with the observations determined on.

(Countersign of his Excellency.) MORALES.

Excellency, *Lima, March* 11, 1861.

THE Congress has proceeded to reconsider, with a view to your Excellency's observations, the law on Asiatic immigration, which was sanctioned by the last Legislature, and forwarded to the Executive Power on the 15th January last; and having persisted in the same, we have the honour to return it to your Excellency for its promulgation and execution.

God preserve, &c.

MIGUEL DEL CARPIO,
President of the Senate.
ANTONIO ARENAS.
President of the Chamber of Deputies.
JOSE H. CORNEJO,
Senator Secretary.
EVARISTO GOMEZ SANCHEZ,
Deputy Secretary.

To His Excellency the President of the Republic.

Wherefore I command that it be printed, published, and circulated, and that it be duly carried into effect.

Dated at the House of the Supreme Government in Lima, 14th March, 1861.

RAMON CASTILLA.
MANUEL MORALES.

From the "Peruano" of April 12, 1862.

D. J. L. Byrne having requested permission to introduce colonists for the South Western Islands of the Pacific, his Excellency the President has issued the following decree :—

Lima, April 1, 1862.

The permission requested is granted to D. J. L. Byrne to introduce into Peru, during six years and on the terms named, colonists of both sexes, natives of the South Western Islands of the Pacific, intended for the labours of agriculture and for domestic service, subject to the forms prescribed by the law of the 15th January, 1861. Be it published.

(Countersign of his Excellency.) MORALES.

From the "Peruano" of September 20, 1862.

To the Prefect of the Constitutional Province of Callao.

Lima, September 15, 1862.

On the 17th June I wrote to you as follows :—

"In a document of D. J. C. Byrne upon the introduction of colonists from the South Western Islands of the Pacific, requesting permission to name agents who should be present at the bargains made with the said colonists, his Excellency the President has issued the following resolution :—

"'*Lima, June* 10, 1862.

"'Whereas there are no Consular Agents of Peru in the places where contracts are to be made with the colonists, whom D. J. C. Byrne proposes to introduce, be it resolved that the investigation, which is intended to make known to the Government whether or not the forms which are prescribed by Article I of the law of the 14th March last, have been observed, shall be made by the authorities of the harbours of Peru, at which the colonists arrive, without which requisite they shall not be permitted to land.

"'I copy the above for your information and for the consequent effects.'

"As the Government has been informed that the colonists introduced by Byrne are selling in Callao, in contravention of the provisions of the aforesaid law, and as this offence against the liberty of the individual should be severely punished, it is necessary that, in compliance with the resolution copied above, you do not permit the landing of immigrants until you have inquired whether or not all those conditions have been observed which are imposed by the said law on those who introduce colonists, especially if they have been hired with their own spontaneous wish, by the persons in whose service they are to be employed ; that you prohibit absolutely those bargains being transferred to other persons without their consent, and that you order the offenders to be brought to judgment.

"God preserve, &c.,

"MANUEL MORALES."

To the Prefect of the Littoral Province of Callao.

Lima, September 17, 1862.

I transmitted to you, under yesterday's date, suitable instructions for the repression of the scandalous abuse which is practising in your port, of selling the colonists, brought from the islands of the Pacific, as if they were slaves. The Government has this day received fresh advices, in which it is asserted that those under age and even adult persons are publicly sold at 200 or 300 dollars ; and as this traffic is an offence against the liberty of the person, and the utmost outrage that can be committed on the dignity of man, the honour of Government, and of the authorities of your port, in whose presence this scandalous crime is committed, demands that energetic and effective measures be set on foot for repressing the same ; and that those who are found to be guilty be brought to justice, in order that they may be punished with all the vigour of the law.

You are to take care that the provisions of the law of the 14th May of last year be strictly complied with by the introducers of colonists ; and for this effect you must ascertain for yourself if the colonists have made bargains of their own spontaneous will, with particular persons, and in terms which are not in opposition to the laws of the country, and you will absolutely prohibit the transfer of those bargains to other persons without the express consent of the colonists.

Being charged with the observance of the laws and supreme provisions in the province under your command, you are responsible for the strict fulfilment of these directions.

God preserve, &c.

MANUEL MORALES.

Inclosure 4 in No. 7.

Decree.

(Translation.) *Department of Government, Lima, December* 20, 1862.

THE orders issued on the 17th June, 15th September, and 16th November last, having proved inefficient to accomplish the object of the law of 14th March of last year, relative to the introduction of labourers from Polinesia, it is hereby resolved :

That a Committee, composed of the Prefect, the Mayor, and the Recorder of the city of Callao, proceed to make the investigation which, by resolve of 10th June last, is ordered to be made to ascertain whether or no the formalities prescribed by the 1st Article of said law have been fulfilled.

This resolve is extended to apply to all the other ports, where the Committee will be composed of the sub-Prefect and above-named functionaries.

Let this be made known and published.

Signed with his Excellency's signet.

(Signed) ARENAS.

Inclosure 5 in No. 7.

Contract.

No.

Agreement made at this day of 186 between on the one part and on the other part, a native of

LET it be known by this contract that I freely and of my own will declare to have agreed with to embark on the vessel Captain for the purpose of going to that country obliging myself from the moment of my arrival to place myself under the orders of the said for which purpose I will enter his service as a cultivator, gardener, shepherd, a servant, or labourer in general, for the term of years, which will be reckoned from the day I enter his service ; during which period I will plough the fields, clear the lands, take care of cattle, work in the gardens, and finally I will do any other kind of work I may be required, to make myself useful besides with what knowledge of mechanics I may possess.

Be it known that I agree of my own free will that the said years will begin to be reckoned from the day I enter service as already said, and that I understand perfectly that the word month will be taken and is taken as signifying a month of the calendar, and that the word year will be taken and is taken as signifying twelve of these months.

Be it known that during said term of years I will not work for myself nor for any other person, but only for the benefit of or for him to whom he may have transferred this contract, and that I will not absent myself from the house of these persons without a written permit to do so.

Be it known that I am allowed for each of my daily meals one hour, and that the work time will be that which is customary in the place or town I may be sent to.

Be it known finally that I bind myself to observe all and every one of the above clauses not only with his heirs, executors, or agents, but to all those persons to whom the present contract may be transferred, in agreement with a Decree of January 7th 1859 for which purpose I authorize them from this very day, so that after having thus acted they will have no responsibility towards me.

Be it known likewise that I, the undersigned, Agent in for bind myself in his name that as soon as the vessel may arrive that the said will pay him monthly for his labour the sum of giving him besides lodging sufficient and wholesome

food, a physician, if any is to be had in the place, attendance and medicine in his illness, that may not arise from his immoral conduct, and when there are no public hospitals.

Be it known that his passage and maintenance from here to Peru will be on account of as likewise all expenses it may be needful to make on the voyage.

Be it known that three days will be granted in a year, so that this party may fulfil his religious duties.

And in fulfilment of every thing above stated, we declare that previous to making our respective signatures, we have read for the last time closely and attentively, every one of the engagements that mutually have been made, in order that at no time nor under any circumstances, ignorance may be pleaded, or to find room for any claim except in case of non compliance with any one of the above conditions, and declare that we have agreed to all, every one of them.

In witness whereof we sign the present solemn contract

No. 8.

Mr. Jerningham to Earl Russell.—(Received March 2.)

My Lord, *Lima, January* 28, 1863.

I FIND by yesterday's paper that vessels continue to arrive at Callao, one after the other, with Polynesians.

On Saturday entered the "Adelante" (second time), proceeding from the Islands of Penrhyn, in 50 days, bringing 202 individuals. Yesterday two other vessels entered the port, one named "Carolina," coming from the Island of Oroa in 28 days, bringing 122 colonists; the other the "Hermosa Dolores," proceeding from the Island of Pascoa in 29 days with 160 natives.

It is stated in the "Cronica de Callao" that the colonists brought by the last ship came as passengers; 25 were sent by the captain of the "Guillermo," 28 by the master of the "Micaela," "Miranda," and 45 by the commander of the "Rosa Patricia," the remainder were from the ships "José Castro," "Rosa y Carmen," and "Cora," which were at anchor before the Island of Pascua at the departure of the "Hermosa Dolores."

The "Cronica" then goes on to say that it appears the inhabitants of the above island refused to embark, intimidated by the artful stories forged by the speculators who were ultimately carrying on work there, and that such was the terror of the natives that not only did they abstain from visiting the ships, but likewise retired into the interior, setting on fire the bushes on the coast. For this reason the vessels were obliged to abandon it and continue their voyage.

Thinking this information might interest your Lordship, I have deemed it right to forward it.

Mr. Robertson informs me that the colonists who have lately arrived are reported to be in good health and that no deaths occurred on the voyage.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

No. 9.

Mr. Jerningham to Earl Russell.—(Received March 17.)

My Lord, *Lima, February 9*, 1863.

I BEG to inclose copy of a further report which I have recently received from Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul at Callao, respecting the Polynesian Emigration.

It appears from it that two seamen, named John O'Neil, and Charles Winter, who had proceeded to the Pacific Islands, in the Peruvian brig "Truxillo," which lately returned to Callao, presented themselves at the Consulate, and made a statement, which

I now have the honour to submit to your Lordship for perusal. It would seem that during the voyage, according to information given to deponents by the crew of a boat that was sent on shore at an island called Mongananara, that the chief of that island, his wife, a woman, and two boys, were taken by force, for the purpose of compelling them to proceed to some other islands to act as interpreters, after which, it would appear, the vessel went to Nakahana, where the chief was left behind; but at other islands, it is stated by these seamen, many Polynesians were received on board by their own free will and consent.

Upon the deponents informing Mr. Robertson that a native, named Frank, was detained on board against his will, and that he requested to be allowed to see the British Consul, as he claimed British protection, on the ground that the island of Nakahana belonged to Great Britain, the Consul requested that the Canaca Frank might be brought before him, which was accordingly done.

After carefully examining this man, Mr. Robertson says, that the statement made regarding him by the deponents, turned out to be either false, or a misunderstanding on the part of the informers, as this Frank is one of the crew of the "Truxillo," and earns sixteen dollars per month, and had never requested to be taken to the Consulate, nor had any complaint to make whatever, further assuring the Consul that all the colonists who came to Peru in the "Truxillo," did so willingly.

In this case, the above may possibly be correct; but if the natives in general have left their homes of their own free will, how is it, from what I hear, that they do not in many cases seem inclined to work at the Peruvian haciendas, to which they have been taken? In their own islands, they appear to be not much accustomed to labour, and probably, had they been fully aware of what would be exacted of them at Peruvian farms, where the labour required is not perhaps excessive to a man accustomed to toil, their free consent, if such has been acquired, would not have been so easily obtained by speculators in Polynesians.

Mr. Robertson considers that these speculations will die a natural death on account of the unwillingness which the emigrants evince for work. However, I believe, there are now in the Port of Callao a good many Polynesians waiting to be collocated by those who may purchase their contracts.

I have seen some of these individuals in the streets of Lima, who appear erect and well-built; but evidently ill at ease in their clothes, and not wearing much the appearance of agriculturists; in fact they looked to me very primitive specimens of humanity.

Since writing the above, I find in the "Comercio" of Lima, February 8, an article upon Polynesian emigration.

This states that "the Polynesian immigration to Peru is becoming a very serious affair, and that it is being converted into real 'trata,' meaning slave-trade; that the authorities and populations of the islands of the Protectorate are becoming alarmed, and that they are taking measures to prevent the continuation of this criminal traffic, and to capture the vessels engaged in it."

Information from the "Mensajero," of Tahiti, is then detailed, the substance of which I will endeavour to give your Lordship. It states that the "Latouche Treville" had gone to the Island of Tuamotu, in search of the vessels indicated by the natives, as being guilty of acts which have the character of piracy; that some natives had been embarked in these vessels deceived by one, or many residents, who have made themselves the mediums of these criminal enterprizes, and after having received advances in commodities and money, designed making a voyage of three or four months with the intention of afterwards returning to their islands.

Mention is then made of the letter which the French Commisary has addressed to the Chiefs of the Archipelago of Mamotu, a dependency of the Protectorate which revealed all the indignation which these operations had caused.

It says that the Islands of Fakaraod and Barnia were the centre of these recruitings, and that the "Latouche Treville" would soon be able to give information on that point.

It also added that it was certain that the Governments of France and England, when they knew that the natives of Oceania were the objects of such speculations, would adopt efficacious means that no flag should cover the agents of speculations which bear such similarity to slave-trade.

It also states that the Queen had wished her husband and eldest son to bear to the Islands of Tuamotu tokens of her sympathy, but at the same time severely reprimand the Chiefs who had permitted themselves to be so grossly deceived, as even to forget their respect for the laws.

Here follows the Proclamation of the Imperial Commissary.

A person, apparently a Chilian writing from Papete, says, according to the extract: "In listening to the authorities of the Protectorate, to the press, and to information which deserves credit, it appears indubitable that the Polynesian emigration is the result of criminal operations. The speculators who send vessels to the islands of Oceania cannot affirm that there exists between them and the people they take on board a legitimate contract. To carry off a man from his home and to go and sell him in a strange land, if it is not a form of slave-trade, approaches very nearly to it. The Polynesian emigrant, like the negro, is ignorant of his destination; like the negro he is sold, and like the negro he has no real interference in the contract which is realized upon his person.

"The speculator sells the emigrant according to his age for 120 up to 250 dollars and does not trouble himself respecting the work to which he is to be destined. This is making of man a merchandize. There is in all this an attack against morality and humanity. We do not maintain, as the French diplomatic agent in Peru has, in an exaggerated way pretended, that Peru has to answer for the violation of the laws which govern the islands of the Protectorate, but we believe that her duty and honour oblige her to forbid that her ports shall receive cargoes of men, who in her cities, and under the protection of her laws, and in presence of her authorities, are sold as goods, only because they are savages. The nation which has destroyed slavery, which has proclaimed liberty for whoever comes to live under the protection of her institutions, this nation cannot, without self contradiction, allow such revolting contracts to be concluded in her sight.

"If Peru wants hands there are a thousand means of attracting legitimate emigration without casting a shade upon her respect for the liberties of mankind.

"In this traffic there is a fact which nearly concerns us.

"Some of the vessels employed in transporting emigrants are 'Chilian.' This involves a responsibility for the flag. Our flag cannot be, without disgrace, the protector of similar speculations.

"It appears that our Government has understood it thus, and has already taken energetic means to prevent such unworthy complications. To pursue without tarrying these speculators in human flesh is the duty of Peru. We trust that she will perform it. The liberty of commerce will not permit this offence. Let the introduction of the Polynesian emigration be permitted; but let them come as free men and not under the tutelage of speculators; let them come to enter into contracts, not sold. If the truth of the matter is such as the facts known up to the present time present it, a tremendous responsibility weighs upon the Government of Peru. It is necessary that this Government should give explanations; it is fitting that America should know—that the world should know—if they have tolerated this abuse, or have been ignorant of it. If the former let them put an end to their toleration; if the latter let the evil be repressed with all the energy of justice and offended humanity."

I beg to offer the foregoing to your Lordship without making any observations of my own, not having received any official data or private information from the Pacific Islands on the subject.

With regard to what may be ascertained at Callao respecting Polynesian emigration, I shall continue to direct Mr. Robertson to give me what information he may be able to obtain.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

Inclosure in No. 9.

Acting Consul Robertson to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir, *Callao, February* 5, 1863.

TWO seamen, named John O'Neil and Charles Winter, who proceeded to the Polynesian Islands in the Peruvian brig "Truxillo," presented themselves at this Consulate, and made the following statement with regard to the voyage of their vessel to the above-mentioned islands, viz., that the "Truxillo" left this port towards the end of September and arrived at an island called Mongananara, where the chief of that island, his wife,

a woman, and two boys, were received on board; that according to the statement made to the deponents by the crew of the boat, which was sent on shore for these people, they were taken by force from the island for the purpose of compelling them to proceed to some other islands to act as interpreters; that the vessel then proceeded to Nakahana Island, where the chief was left behind; that at the Island of Manahe between seventy and eighty persons, including men, women, and children, were taken on board by their own free will and consent; that at the Island of Nuay about fifty more (men only), were likewise received on board by their own desire. The deponents further stated that a Cnaca, named Frank was detained on board the "Truxillo" against his will, and that h requested to be allowed to see the British Consul, as he claimed British protection on the ground that the island of which he was a native, Nakahana, belongs to Great Britain.

In sight of this statement, I requested the consignees of the "Truxillo" to allow the said Frank to be brought before me, which they immediately consented to. After having carefully examined the said Frank as to the statement made with regard to him, it turned out to be either false or a misunderstanding on the part of the deponents, as Frank is one of the crew of the "Truxillo," and earning sixteen dollars per month, and had never requested to be taken to the Consulate or had any complaint whatever. He further assured me that all the colonists, who have come to Peru in the "Truxillo" did so willingly.

On the 2nd instant, the Peruvian barque "Rosalia," arrived from the Island of Hayram, bringing one hundred and ninety-six Canacas, of whom thirty-seven are women and ten children.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. W. ROBERTSON.

No. 10.

Mr. Jerningham to Earl Russell.—(*Received March* 17.)

My Lord, *Lima, February* 12, 1863.

AFTER I had finished my despatch of the 9th instant, I received viâ Valparaiso, from Mr. Miller, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Tahiti, a despatch, forwarding another through me under flying seal for your Lordship, giving information respecting the proceedings of Polynesian speculators in the Pacific Islands.

Some of this information is new to me, but other parts of it, which had been already in the public newspapers here, and of which I have made your Lordship cognizant in my above-mentioned despatch, is mostly what I have already learnt.

Mr. Miller, and the residents in the Pacific Islands, from their knowledge of the character and customs of the natives, are seemingly much better judges as to whether these individuals come of their own free will; and besides, the mode which is had recourse to in obtaining them and the whole process must be better and more publicly known at the islands themselves, than to us by what we can learn in Calloa from the people engaged in this trade; perhaps even the proprietors and consignees of the vessels, who are people of notoriety here and in Callao, are not aware themselves of all the circumstances under which many of the natives may have been obtained.

As Mr. Miller's account chiefly concerns islands under the French protection, I see no cause for my active interference until I receive orders from your Lordship, but I shall seek an occasion to inform the Peruvian Minister for Foreign Affairs of what are said to be the proceedings of the Polynesian speculators in some of the islands of the Pacific, and warn his Excellency that if any abuses are practised at the islands under British protection, or belonging to Great Britain, complications may arise that may prove exceedingly disagreeable to Peru.

I beg to forward to your Lordship the despatch of Her Majesty's Consul at Tahiti, which I received on the 11th instant under flying seal.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM

No. 11.

Consul Miller to Earl Russell.—(Received March 17.)

(Extract.) *Papeete, Tahiti, November 29, 1862.*

I DEEM it my duty to solicit your Lordship's attention to certain serious occurrences that have recently taken place in these seas, and the particulars of which I proceed to have the honour of placing within your knowledge.

Two Peruvian merchant vessels, the barque "Serpiente Marina," and brig "Barbara Gomez," called at this port early in the present month, and it has transpired that they formed part of a fleet of some ten or twelve vessels lately fitted out at, and despatched from, Callao, for the purpose of collecting natives amongst the islands of the Pacific and introducing them into Peru as immigrants under contract for service.

The abolition of slavery in Peru, a few years ago, is stated to have led to a great scarcity of labourers in that country, and this deficiency was, it would seem, sought to be met by the introduction of Chinese labourers at a considerable expense, until an apparently cheaper and easier method of procuring labour was divulged to the Peruvians about the middle of the present year. At that period a vessel despatched from Calloa succeeded in obtaining at the Penrhyn Islands (situated nearly midway between the Marquesas and Navigator's Groups) as many, it is said, as two hundred and eighty of the islanders, men, women and children, whom she conveyed to Calloa, where the title to their services was, I am told, disposed of at an average rate exceeding one hundred dollars per head, under the plea of passage-money due for their conveyance.

The successful result of the voyage alluded to, at a moment, too, when there seems to be an increasing demand for labour in Peru consequent upon the extension of rice and cotton-planting, is reported to have keenly excited the attention of speculators, who, it appears, expect to continue in like manner to realize large profits from the collection of South Sea Islanders, and from the transfer of the term of service for which these people may be bound, in the so-called contract under which they are landed in Peru—or in plainer words, from the sale of these deluded islanders into protracted servitude, and that servitude most probably of a kind which neither their nature nor their habits are likely to permit of their very long enduring.

I am credibly informed that so sanguine are these expectations of profit, that even companies, in small shares, have been got up in Lima for sending out expeditions in this new traffic, and that amongst the ships already despatched are several crazy old vessels, that had long been laid up as hulks, but which in the enthusiasm of speculators have been equipped as good enough for this service.

One of the two Peruvian ships, already referred to as having come into this port, besides being prepared with a strong open barricade upon the upper deck a little abaft the mainmast, and with other suspicious fittings, has her between decks extremely low, ill-ventilated, and much encumbered with the extensive arrangements for berthing her expected passengers. The second ship's passenger fittings had not been put up, but the necessary materials were ready on board: she was evidently very old and leaky.

It is not difficult to foresee that much suffering awaits the unfortunate natives crowded into such inefficient ships, and that great frauds and abuses will be perpetrated in collecting and engaging these ignorant people, if they be left to the mercy of interested parties, as they at present seem to be.

It is a general custom of the islanders to go in large numbers on board of vessels arriving off their shores, and the many favourable opportunities thus afforded for inducing them to consent to leave, under false promises of great advantages and speedy return, or for otherwise securing them and carrying them off, are not likely to be neglected by unscrupulous collectors, whose profits will usually depend upon the number of natives procured by them.

Slop clothing suitable to the native taste, and contracts printed in Spanish with blanks for names, dates, advances, &c., are on board in readiness. Doubtless the marks of the islanders will be obtained at the foot of such papers before they reach Peru, and probably, too, the contract will be attested by some irresponsible person hired at high wages amongst the islanders to assist in entrapping the natives and pretending to be a competent interpreter. But it may, I am sure, be safely assumed that not one of the islanders obtained will possess anything approaching a clear knowledge either as to where he is going, or as to the length or description of servitude to which he may be dooming himself when making his cross at the bottom of one of those so-called contracts.

There is in short but too much reason to fear that this new method of supplying Peru with labourers will, if permitted to continue unchecked, become in practice no better than a system of kidnapping, if not of piracy, leading, it may be apprehended, to little short of the slavery in disguise of its unsuspecting victims.

But this is not all. The abduction of the islanders on the extended scale that seems to be contemplated, must moreover sooner or later, have the effect of exasperating the natives in general, and serve to provoke in many instances sanguinary acts of retaliation, sometimes perhaps upon unoffending ships, when such might unhappily be the first to offer the islanders a chance of remedying the wrongs inflicted upon their relatives or fellow countrymen.

Great peril would thus be unjustly occasioned, even to those who, in the exercise of lawful pursuits, may continue their accustomed intercourse with the islanders of these seas, whose inhabitants will naturally become more savage under their new persecution, and of course their progress towards civilization be greatly retarded.

I have ventured to submit the foregoing statement with a view to the better understanding of the particular facts with which I now beg permission to make your Lordship acquainted.

The "Serpiente Marina" had been but a very short time in this port, when information was given to the local authorities that there were on board, under illegal detention, some persons supposed to be natives of the Gambier Islands, where the vessel was known to have touched on her way hither, and which your Lordship will recollect are French possessions.

In consequence of these reports the local authorities sent an officer off to the ship to muster her crew and passengers, and two islanders were found on board whose presence there was not satisfactorily accounted for. These two persons were accordingly brought on sore for fuller examination, and they were ultimately found to be natives of Easter Island, where the "Serpiente Marina" had also called on her way from Callao to this place. The two islanders in question had, it seems, gone voluntarily on board of the vessel, but it is quite as clear that they were kept there against or without their will, either by deceit or by force, whilst they also clearly enough make it understood, as I myself have witnessed, that their chief desire still is to return to their island, and to their wives and children. They have both been set at liberty, and remain on shore at Papeete for the present. The Imperial Commissioner has, however, informed me that it is his intention to cause them to be re-landed at Easter Island by the next French Government vessel proceeding from hence to Valparaiso.

In the course of the examination of the two islanders, they succeeded in making known, that while at the Gambier Islands, the "Serpiente Marina" had been involved in some affray with the inhabitants, in which a person belonging to the ship was wounded.

This discovery led the local authorities to proceed to the examination of the captain and crew of the vessel, whose declarations were to the effect that the natives of the Gambier Islands had assembled in arms, under the authority of their chiefs, and had disarmed the master, supercargo and surgeon of the "Serpiente Marina" whilst they were on shore at that place, the supercargo receiving a slight wound on the occasion; the inquiry did not, however, clearly bring to light the cause that led the natives to take up arms, though it was strongly suspected that the act must have been provoked by some improper attempt on the part of the Peruvian ship to carry off natives, as she had previously done at Easter Island.

At this stage of the matter, intelligence reached Papeete that a third vessel, shewing no colours, but naturally supposed also to be one of the before-mentioned fleet sent out from Callao, had quite recently been hovering about the Paumotu Islands (which, it will be remembered, are dependencies of Taniti), and that this vessel had already succeeded in obtaining, at one of those islands some thirty or forty natives, who, it seems, were enticed to quit their homes under the false pretence that they were to be conveyed to some island at no great distance, to work there at high wages, and to be brought back again in five or six months. An unscrupulous person residing at the Paumotu Islands was found to aid in the accomplishment of this fraudulent act, in consideration of high wages, besides a bonus of ten shillings a-head for each native obtained. This person, according to the information received here, was still engaged in collecting people among the different islands of the Paumotu Group, and it was expected that the vessel in question would embark in this way as many in all as two hundred of the islanders before her final departure for Peru. As it, however, appeared highly probable that the time which would yet be required to make up this large complement, might, on the other hand, be sufficient to enable the offending vessel to be overtaken, the Imperial Commissioner despatched the

French war steamer "Latouche Treville" from hence for the Paumotu Group on the day following, namely, on the 25th instant, in pursuit of her, and with orders, should she be found, to seize and bring her to Tahiti for trial.

The "Serpiente Marina" meanwhile remains here under judicial detention until her proceedings at the Gambier Islands shall have been more completely investigated, for which purpose the steamer "Latouche Treville," is shortly to be sent thither with the requisite officers of justice.

The brig "Barbara Gomez" was, like the "Serpiente Marina," subjected to search at this port, but nothing palpable appearing to warrant her detention, she was suffered to depart on the 19th instant.

It is to be hoped that the vigilance and decided measures of the French authorities at Tahiti will soon have the effect of putting an end to this odious traffic in natives throughout the islands under French protection; but a wild field for its exercise will still remain open in these vast seas, and the vessels engaged in it, whilst carefully avoiding Tahiti and its dependencies, may pass on and find in the extensive Archipelagos to the westward full scope for continuing their aggression.

Her Majesty's Government, as well as that of France, will no doubt take a lively interest in the suppression of such abuses, and it must be hoped that the Peruvian Government, will not fail, on its part, to co-operate towards the same end; but some time must necessarily elapse before complete measures can be concerted for affecting this desirable object. In the meantime every available means will be taken of warning the islanders, in all accessible directions, of the danger to which they are exposed, so as to put them, as soon and as far as possible, upon their guard against those snares into which some have already unwarily fallen.

By a vessel that arrived here this morning from the French Possession of the Marquesas Islands, information has been received of some Peruvian vessels having lately been at those islands also in search of labourers; it would appear, however, that they were not successful in inducing any of the natives to go away with them.

I acquaint Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Lima with the illegal proceedings previously referred to of Peruvian vessels in these seas; and for his fuller information I transmit to him, under flying seal, the present detailed report upon the matter, praying of him to be pleased, on forwarding the same to its destination, to furnish your Lordship with any observations or additional information connected with the subject thereof, which he may think it advisable to place under the notice of Her Majesty's Government, with a view to the better understanding of the case.

I likewise transmit information of the same kind to the Commander-in-Chief of Her Majesty's Naval Forces in the Pacific, through the Senior British Naval Officer on the coast of Peru.

No. 12.

Mr. Jerningham to Earl Russell.—(Received March 31.)

My Lord, *Lima, February 26, 1863.*

I HAVE heard that another vessel with two hundred and three Polynesians has arrived at Callao, and I have ordered the Acting British Consul to report to me any information which he may be able to collect respecting them.

I doubt whether much cleanliness is observed on board of these vessels, for I was informed the other day that a gentleman of my acquaintance, a proprietor, went on board this or another Polynesian emigrant vessel, with the object of obtaining some islanders, but was so much disgusted with the odour proceeding from the ship and with the appearance of the people, that he did not engage any.

To-day I had occasion to see Señor Paz Soldan, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, when I asked his Excellency if, at the time when the Peruvian Government had conceded licences to bring Polynesians to this country, those licences extended to the whole of the Pacific Islands; for I observed, although I had no orders from my Government to communicate with him on these matters, yet, as there were some of those islands that might be under British protection, I trusted that no abuses might take place there, as such abuses might lead to disagreeable questions and complications which it was most desirable to obviate. His Excellency replied that the present Government had been opposed to Polynesian emigration; and that an end would now be put to any abuses, I

supposed likely to occur, for that the Minister for the Home Department had issued a Decree, published in the official journal, the "Peruano," on that subject, copy and translation of which, I beg now to forward to your Lordship.

It appears by this, first, that captains of vessels bringing colonists from the Pacific Islands or from other parts must give to the Commissions established by the Decree of the 20th December, a circumstantial account respecting these colonists and of the instruments in virtue of which their services have been contracted for.

2nd. If these last documents should not be verified in the form which Article 810 of the Code of Peru ordains, or should not be recognized before the judicial authorities of the Republic, that the colonists will be assisted in their right to dispose of themselves in the way that they may deem proper, without preventing the captains or speculators who may have employed stratagem or violence in taking them away from their own country, from being judged criminally as the law disposes.

3rd. The Commissioners already mentioned will interfere with regard to the first contracts entered into with private persons respecting the services of the colonists, the judicial authorities and the police taking proper measures, as far as they are concerned, for the punctual observance of the Articles 813 of the Code of Enjucimientas and 1622, 1835, 1836, and 1639 of the Codigo Civil.

4th. The captains of vessels who conduct these expeditions of colonists will not be allowed to disembark any emigrants without these steps, ordered by the first Article of the above Decree, having been taken.

His Excellency finally added—"Take care of your own house, and we will take care of ours."

The French are beginning to do this at the islands under their protection, and if the agents in those islands in the Pacific which are under British protection or influence, could do the same, these speculations, in which many abuses may have probably taken place, although difficult to detect here, will fall to the ground.

I beg now to forward extract and translation of an article in the "Comercio," respecting Polynesian emigration to Peru, in which it is endeavoured to establish that these people will make better colonists than the Chinese, which is much to be doubted. It at the same time argues that if the Polynesians are treated well and made to work only lightly at first, that they will ultimately perform good service; but if differently, that they will give themselves up to regret at leaving their homes, and to despair.

An example is given of it where a Polynesian woman, upon seeing a Peruvian lady, threw herself upon her knees, begging with tears in her eyes to be taken into her service; but also it gives another example of a different kind, where an agriculturist having provided himself with several of these emigrants set them to work, as he would the "peans" or labourers of the country, and that the consequence was that two-thirds of these Polynesians died.

As to the Polynesians themselves, I do not see any advantage, even if they came here of their own free will, in leaving their own beautiful islands to work upon Peruvian farms in company with the cunning Cholo and the free Black.

I also inclose copy of a despatch just received from Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul at Callao respecting Polynesians.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 12.

Extract from the "Peruano" of February 20, 1863.

(Translation.) *Lima, February 20, 1863.*

IT being necessary to prevent the abuse of the licences granted for the introduction to Peru of labourers of both sexes, and the Executive power having the right to dictate the measures and regulations that may be adequate to secure the fulfilment of the laws—the following is resolved upon: 1st. The Captains of vessels who bring colonists from the islands of the south-west of the Pacific, or from any other parts, shall present to the Committee established by the Decree of the 20th of December last, a detailed statement of the said colonists, as well as the document in virtue of which their services have been contracted. 2nd. If this last document should not be proved in the manner ordered in Article 810 of the Judicial Code, or recognised before the judicial authorities

of the Republic, the colonists shall be assisted in the right to dispose of themselves as they may think fit, notwithstanding which the captains or speculators who shall have used fraud or violence in separating them from their country, shall be criminally prosecuted as the law directs. 3rd. The Committees referred to, shall intervene in the first contracts entered into with private parties for the services of the colonists, the judicial authorities and those of Polynesia taking care, as far as regards them that Article 813 of the Judicial Code and Articles 1632, 1635, 1636, and 1639 of the Cival Code be punctually observed. 4th. The captains of vessels bringing colonists shall not disembark them in any port of the nation without having executed the orders contained in the 1st Article of this Decree. Let this be communicated and published.—A Rubric of his Excellency.—Arenas.

Inclosure 2 in No. 12.

Extract from the Lima "Comercio" of February 20, 1863.

(Translation.)

THE want of hands has been with us, and will continue to be so for some time, an obstacle to the progress of agriculture, and with the desire of doing away with this great inconvenience, people have occupied themselves at various periods, and with various success, in introducing colonists from different nations.

Until lately, Chinese have been brought hither; nevertheless, in general, on account of their weak constitution, they are not apparently fit for the labours of agriculture, and much less if you consider their bad habits and not very good disposition. Some are now here established in taverns and engaged in other lucrative occupations; but the most of them occupying their time in gambling and debauchery, instead of being any service to the community, only change residence, evincing an invincible inclination to idleness and their own perverse customs. For some time many merchants here have entertained the idea of bringing Polynesians to Peru, obtaining for that purpose Government licences and vessels to be employed in this traffic. Some hundred Polynesians have arrived, and we can give the assurance that they are more useful than Chinese, and that shortly they will chime in with our customs and perform that work for which they may be destined. Robust and intelligent in general, they bear a resemblance to the "cholos" (Peruvian civilized Indians), and it will be easy to fashion them to the kind of occupation that may be required.

However, we have heard them judged in an unfavourable light; and they have been supposed to be incapable of dedicating themselves with profit to any class of employment. But in advancing such an erroneous opinion, those who make the assertion do not take into consideration that men leading a wandering and savage life, accustomed to live by fishing and without social habits, plunged in the most supine ignorance, and beholding their existence passing away like the plants of the desert, without more light than that of the heavens, without more ideas than those which exist in an uncultivated mind, without other considerations than those which arise from fear and absolute independence, never constrained by any reflexions, cannot, during such a brief change, alter their customs and acquire habits of industry, submission, and respect. Out of a savage a king can be formed, but only by means of education, not by harsh treatment. He will only be made to detest the society in which he may receive such bad treatment and to harbour in his heart, virgin as yet to the impressions which cultivation and progress foster, the cursed germ of despair.

Astonished at beholding fields which his mind never imagined, delighted with the infinite variety and beauties which fascinate his eyes, and at sights which he has never been accustomed to see, he can, with good treatment, be induced to accommodate himself to the exigencies of labour. If he be treated differently, then will he sigh after his solitary coasts and abandoned fatherland.

A Polynesian woman, seeing a lady in the ship in which she came, threw herself at the feet of the latter, and there prostrate, with palpitating heart and tears in her eyes, supplicated to be taken into the lady's service, and to remain by her side. She amused herself with examining the lady's dress, finding herself under a spell.

And these Polynesians were considered rebellious, and of indomitable dispositions!

Some farmer or other took several Polynesians, and from the first day obliged them to work in the same manner as the other "Peones" (labourers) from morning to night,

without other rest than what is allowed to men accustomed to such work. What was the result?—a consequence that could not fail to happen—two-thirds of them died.

Let these people be accustomed by degrees to labour; let them be encouraged; dispense with punishment at the beginning, and then they will perform good service.

Inclosure 3 in No. 12.

Acting Consul Robertson to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir, *Callao, February* 24, 1863.

I HAVE the honour to report to you that a vessel, under Peruvian colours, called the "Theresa," arrived in this port on the 21st instant with colonists from the Island of Independencia, one of the Polynesian group.

The number brought in this vessel, including women and children, is two hundred and three.

To-day I proceeded on board the "Theresa" to gather some information as to the manner which these colonists were brought, but beyond the assurance of the supercargo that they were brought of their own free will and accord, I could obtain no information.

The men mostly are clad in shirts and trowsers, a few I observed had only shirts on; the women appear to be superior to the men, both physically and mentally, and are decently dressed.

(Signed) E. W. ROBERTSON.

No. 13.

Mr. Jerningham to Earl Russell.—(Received April 12.)

(Extract.) *Lima, March* 12, 1863.

I BEG to be allowed to submit to your Lordship a translation of an extract from the "Comercio" of Lima, headed "Polynesians."

This article is evidently hostile to the introduction of these colonists into the country, and advises measures to be taken in time so as to anticipate those which may ultimately be exacted from this country to put an end to a traffic (and the abuses of which it is liable), which, according to this article, would seem to be a kind of slavery.

The writer of the above is of opinion that according to the law of the land the contracts of these Polynesians are invalid because persons of no capacity and savages, unable to understand the provisions of a contract, cannot enter into a legal one, and is also of opinion that were a Polynesian to present himself before a competent judge and sue for a nullity of contract, the judge, unless being guilty of gross fraud, would not only give a favourable decision for the Polynesian, but one for all other Polynesian colonists similarly situated.

This colonization ought, I think, to be put a stop to. First of all, it is useless; these Indians die off and won't work; secondly, whatever may be said about their coming here of their own free will and accord, it may reasonably be supposed that abuses have really taken place, or why are the French authorities at Tahiti, &c., so irate and active in suppressing the attempts to take away the natives of the Pacific Islands.

From the Protectorate which the French exercise at Tahiti and other groups, it is evidently their "rôle" to be the first in investigating and suppressing this "unworthy traffic," as the enclosed extract terms it.

There have been reports of natives having arrived here who claimed British protection.

As I have no orders from your Lordship to interfere actively, I have not done so, because your Lordship's despatch of the 26th of November last only limits me to watching this business and reporting upon it.

The other day Her Majesty's Consul at Callao wanted to send up to me at Lima a Polynesian (with an interpreter), who claimed British protection. The French Consul, I believe, had wished this man to go to the British Consulate.

I answered that before this man was sent up to Lima I wished to know if he was or not a British subject; but as it could not be asserted by the Consul at Callao that he really was, he was not sent to me.

The owner of the "Truxillo" was, it appears, under contract with this man to take him back to his native island, and Mr. Robertson, the Vice-Consul at Callao, in the presence of the French Consul, agreed that the Polynesian should go on board, where Mr. Robertson felt he would be well treated. I believe this Polynesian is one of the crew.

I also beg to forward to your Lordship copy of a communication from Her Majesty's Consul at Callao, inclosing the voluntary declaration made by a Dutchman, late carpenter on board of the "Theresa," which vessel, not long ago, brought Polynesians.

This man states that about two hundred of them were brought from Easter Island and against their will; whereas Mr. Robertson who went on board the "Teresa," as reported in his despatch to me inclosed in my despatch of the 26th of February last, to your Lordship, says that that vessel he learnt brought them from the Island of "Independencia," which cannot be Easter Island, or "Isla de Pascoa," as it is called here.

To clear up this discrepancy, I wrote to Mr. Barton, copy of which note is herein inclosed, asking for explanations, stating at the same time that when it was known what Harry Mass, a native of Holland, had to declare, it appertained more to the Peruvian authorities of Callao to receive this man's statement than to the British Consulate.

From the deponent not giving any dates and saying that he had been sent to Her Majesty's Consulate by the French Consular Agent, Mr. Barton did not appear to attach very much importance to the matter. However, it may possibly be all correct, but I doubt whether Harry Mass could have been induced to make a similar declaration before the Peruvian authorities.

Without orders, I have taken no steps in this business with the Peruvian Government.

It is thought that the proceedings of the French authorities in Oceania will, with the disinclination at present of the public to take these Polynesians, put a stop to these speculations.

M. Lesseps, the French Chargé d'Affaires, tells me that his conduct with regard to the Polynesian emigration has been approved of in Paris.

Inclosure 1 in No. 13.

Extract from the Lima "Comercio" of March 3, 1863.

(Translation.)

POLYNESIANS.—VARIOUS ships that went in search of Polynesians have been detained by the French authorities of Oceania.

The foreign press considers the commerce in Polynesians as a new slave-trade, the credit of the country being damaged by it, and all this causes us to fear, with or without reason, that this business may occasion Peru serious conflicts.

Although the introduction of Polynesians might be useful, nevertheless, it would be advisable to forego it, in order to save us from international complications which might ensue, and from the antipathies which it might cause us, but fortunately any loss to Peru, in closing her ports to these colonists, will not be occasioned.

The greater part of these people are accustomed to live on the fruits which the earth offers them spontaneously, and on this account, they detest labour. In what will our agriculture gain by having men who know nothing, who are void of aspirations, and whom it is possible by force alone to compel to pay, with the sweat of their brow, the bread and money which are given them.

If the labour of savages can be utilized, truly there is no necessity to go to "Oceania" in search of them, as we have a sufficiency of such individuals in our territory whom it would be very easy to take from their hordes and convey to the cities, and the fields which we cultivate.

The "Morocochas," and those who people the banks of the "Amazons," are not in any respect inferior to the Polynesians. But this is not the population which is necessary for the increase and amelioration of our territory.

The adult wandering in the woods, without any other than the commonest necessities, and without believing that the force with which he is endowed, can be of use for increasing and furthering the products of nature, is not only useless, but prejudicial.

The presence of savages in our fields will resuscitate the "galpon" (barracoon) and the overseer, the prostitution and abasement of not only the labourer, but the work. The family and slavery, whether temporary or permanent, are incompatible.

He who is not master of his own person, and does not derive those advantages, promised by labour, cannot be a husband or a father. Work performed under the pressure of owners ceases to be virtue, and becomes a profound sorrow whose deep-felt lamentations keep aloof strong and manly minds.

At present we have not sufficient means for civilizing the indigenous inhabitants who constitute our principal material force, and we have gone in search of other people less agricultural than the above to augment the difficulties, which, on this account, the Republic encounters in its progress.

There are considerations of another kind, as well as those we have just expressed, showing the necessity of prohibiting the introduction of Polynesians.

The mortality of these is very considerable. Many are in the hospitals, and few get well, in spite of careful attention.

Is it possible that our Government can consent to these unfortunate people being snatched away from their islands to be conducted to certain death?

May not our inhumane inattention draw down upon us an epidemical infliction that might deprive us of thousands of persons of real utility?

We know well, that after having authorized this unworthy traffic in which Polynesian speculators have embarked. The Government could not "ex abrupto" forbid the importation of these colonists, but what impropriety would there be, in order to effect it, to issue a decree conceived in the following terms:—

1. From the date of six months hence, Polynesians shall not be permitted to enter the country collectively. The fitters-out and captains of vessels shall not be allowed to convey on board more than what suffice for the ship's service, and in no case shall they pay their expenses incurred in being brought, but hiring themselves for the services which they may perform.

2. Polynesians, who, before this term, may arrive in Peru, if they should wish to return, shall be conducted, at the cost of Government, to the places from which they may have been abstracted. In this case the state shall reimburse the captains and fitters-out the expenses they have been put to in bringing them.

It may be that what we now propose, or something more may be exacted of us, not without justice, later on.

Let us put an end to this evil; let us save our credit, by anticipating all demands.

All Governments are liable to commit errors, but ours committed a very great one in authorizing the importation of Polynesians, and are committing a greater one by giving a passive acquiescence to a form which appears now to be slavery.

Retrocede in time. Save the permanent interests of the country and the national honour. It is contradictory and shameful, that a country which knew how, at the cost to its treasury, to free itself from the leprosy of slavery, consents to it under another form, and in a manner that gives rise to such evils.

It cannot be said that the Polynesians are free to dispose of their persons, and that consequently they can oblige themselves to work, under given conditions, for a certain number of years; because liberty does not exist in a person deprived of capacity; because every contract contrary to the laws is void, and the laws have prohibited temporal and permanent slavery.

Do the Polynesians understand perchance the obligations imposed upon them by these contracts, true or suppositious, which in their own, or in this country, they are made to sign, or which are forged? Do savages know what labour from four to eight years imports?

Can they have an idea of the cost of their passage, of what they ought to pay, and of the manner in which this payment must be satisfied?

All the Polynesians in Peru are free, because they are not bound by the real or supposed contracts with which it has been attempted to bind them.

No judge, without committing the most odious prevarications, can recognize the rights of the patrons; if these have been injured, up to a certain point they deserve it; but perhaps they will have the option of a restitution of what they gave for these people.

We may be wrong, but we believe that the first Polynesian who presents himself

before a competent judge, applying for a nullity of contract, will not only obtain a favourable sentence, but a sentence favourable to all those who may find themselves in the same case.

We desire that this may reach the ears of the Polynesians, for it would be an excellent fulfilment of the measures which we propose for the emancipation of the unfortunate beings who may have the good luck to escape the diseases which are devouring them.

Inclosure 2 in No. 13.

Consul Barton to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir, *Callao, March* 6, 1863.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith certified copy of a voluntary declaration made and registered in this Consulate by Harry Mass, a native of Holland, late carpenter of the Peruvian barque "Theresa," relative to the manner in which certain natives of Easter Island were detained on board that vessel and brought to this port. You will please to observe that the deponent does not give any dates, not being able to give them correctly and that he stated that he came here at the resquest of the French Consul at this port.

(Signed) JOHN BARTON.

Inclosure 3 in No. 13.

Declaration of Harry Mass.

THIS day before me, John Barton, Esquire, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Callao personally came and appeared

Harry Mass, late carpenter of the Peruvian barque "Theresa," who voluntarily declared as follows, viz., that he joined the above-mentioned vessel in this port as carpenter, in which capacity he proceeded in the "Theresa" to Easter Island; that on arriving at that island some of the inhabitants swam off and that others were brought off to the vessel for the purpose of purchasing or bartering Irish hooks and clothing; that when there were about two hundred persons on board including men, women, and children, sail was suddenly made on the vessel, and the persons on board were detained against their will and brought to this port; that the persons referred to requested to be allowed to return on shore, but were refused permission, and detained on board by the captain and chief mate of the vessel.

(Signed) HARRY MASS.

Sworn at the British Consulate at Callao this fifth day of March, in the year of our Lord 1863.

Before me,

(L.S.) (Signed) JOHN BARTON.

Her Britannic Majesty's Consul.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and faithful copy of the original declaration registered in the archives of this Consulate.

In witness whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the consular seal of the office of Her Britannic Majesty's Consulate at Callao, this sixth day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three.

(L.S.) (Signed) JOHN BARTON,

Her Britannic Majesty's Consul.

Inclosure 4 in No. 13.

Mr. Jerningham to Consul Barton.

Lima, March 7, 1863.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of 6th instant, transmitting certified copy of a voluntary declaration made and registered at Her

Majesty's Consulate at Callao, by Harry Mass, a native of Holland, late carpenter on board the Peruvian barque "Theresa," relative to the manner in which certain natives of Easter Island were detained on board that vessel and brought to Callao.

In reading the declaration of Mass I find that he states that the two hundred persons, including men, women, and children, who swam on board the "Theresa," or who were brought on board from shore and there detained against their will, were from Easter Island, whereas in Mr. Robertson's despatch to me of the 24th of February last, reporting the arrival of the "Theresa" at Callao, on the 21st of that month, he states that she had come from the Island of Independencia.

This appears a discrepancy which I wish may be investigated.

Mr. Robertson's report after his going on board of the "Theresa" mentions that he could obtain no further information excepting that the supercargo assured him that the Polynesians came of their own free will; and that their number was two hundred and three. This confirms the statement of Harry Mass as to the number more or less, there being only a difference of three; but Independencia and Easter Island (Isla de Pascoa), cannot surely be the same, and therefore I must beg of you to have the kindness to look into this for the sake of rectification.

It also appears to me that when it was known what kind of statement Harry Mass, a native of Holland, had to make; that he ought to have been directed to go and make it to the Peruvian authorities at Callao. Of course, any one can come and make a voluntary declaration before Her Majesty's Consul; but this being evidence against the navigators of the Peruvian vessel "Theresa," it appertained more directly to the Peruvian authorities to receive it, and of course to act upon it, as their late excellent decrees ordain.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

No. 14.

Mr. Jerningham to Earl Russell.—(Received May 13.)

(Extract.) *Lima, April* 12, 1863.

I SUBJOIN copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Callao, stating that, on the 1st instant, the Peruvian barque, "Carolina," arrived at Callao from the Island of Baijee, bringing 72 male colonists and one female.

From what I hear, independent of the irregularities and abuses which are asserted to have occurred in procuring many of the Polynesians, the advent of these colonists to Peru has been anything but a useful speculation.

A great many of these poor people, I am told, die of nostalgia and other diseases; others want work; many also live on raw plaintains, and fish, when they can obtain it, but decline the diet of cooked meat.

Even care does not appear to succeed in preserving these inhabitants of the Pacific Islands any length of time in Peru, for I have been informed that a gentleman here, who had a lot of these people on his premises in the country of whom he took great care, has lost all but two.

Inclosure in No. 14.

Acting Consul Robertson to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir, *Callao, April* 3, 1863.

I HAVE the honour to report that on the 1st instant the Peruvian barque, "Carolina," arrived in port from the Island of Baijee, bringing 72 male colonists and one female.

I should mention that this report is taken from the Book of Entries and Sailings, kept at the office of the captain of the port.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. W. ROBERTSON.

No. 15.

Mr. Jerningham to Earl Russell.—(Received May 20.)

My Lord, *Lima, April 23, 1863.*

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship copy of a despatch from Rear-Admiral Kingcome, Commander-in-Chief of Her Britannic Majesty's Forces in the Pacific forwarding two letters from the officer in command of the "Naiad" naval store ship at Callao, reporting that several vessels had arrived at that port with cargoes of natives from the islands of the South Pacific ; and that as there seemed to be strong suspicions that these people were inveigled on board and sold in Peru, he brought the matter under my notice with a view to making such representations to the Peruvian Government as I might deem necessary.

The lists of vessels which are mentioned in Captain Reid's letters to the Admiral comprise those which arrived between the 17th January and 9th of March inclusive, most of which have been already reported to me by Her Britannic Majesty's Vice-Consul at Callao, and by me to your Lordship.

I beg also to inclose copy of my reply to Rear-Admiral Kingcome's communication, in which I inform him that the Polynesian emigration had greatly merited my attention since my arrival on the 2nd of January last, that I had written several despatches to your Lordship on the subject, that I had followed the instructions I had brought out with me regarding this matter, and awaited further orders from Her Majesty's Government. Besides, I also informed him that I had warned the Peruvian Minister for Foreign Affairs against abstracting any Islanders illegally from places under British jurisdiction or protection.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 15.

Rear-Admiral Kingcome to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir, *"Sutlej," at Valparaiso, March 31, 1863.*

I INCLOSE herewith copies of two letters from the officer in command of the "Naiad," at Callao, reporting that several vessels had lately arrived at that port with cargoes of natives from the islands in the South Pacific, and as there seems to be strong suspicions entertained that these poor people (who are without any established form of Government to legalise contracts such as are made in China for the exportation of coolies), have been inveigled on board and sold in Peru, I have the honour to bring the matter under your notice with a view to your making such representations to the Peruvian Government as you may deem necessary, in order to ensure due and proper protection to those islanders.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN KINGCOME.

Inclosure 2 in No. 15.

Master-Commander Reid to Rear-Admiral Kingcome.

Sir, *"Naiad," Callao, February 18, 1863.*

I HAVE the honour to forward for your information a list of vessels engaged between the 17th January and 17th February, 1863, in conveying natives under the name of "colonists," from the South Sea Islands to this port, to be employed as labourers and servants.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. REID.

Inclosure 3 in No. 15.

List of vessels engaged in carrying Natives of the South Sea Islands between the 17th January and the 17th February, 1863.

ARRIVED.—January 17th, 1863. Chilian barque "Eliza Mason," Captain Jararqui, of 238 tons, from Easter Island, South Pacific, in 27 days, bringing 140 men, 86 women, and 12 children.

January 25th, 1863. Peruvian barque "Carolina," Captain Sebastian Morales, of 150 tons, from the Island of Oroa, with 122 natives.—Peruvian schooner "Hermosa Dolores," Captain Geary, of 100 tons, with 162 natives.

February 1st. Peruvian barque "Rosalia," Captain Bolo, of 270 tons, with 196 natives, of whom 27 are women and 10 children.

SAILED.—February 5th, 1863. Peruvian barque "Carolina, Captain S. Morales, of 150 tons, in ballast for the islands to bring colonists.

(Signed) G. REID,
Master Commander, Her Majesty's Ship "Naiad."

Inclosure 4 in No. 15.

Master-Commander Reid to Rear-Admiral Kingcome.

Sir, *"Naiad," Callao, March* 20, 1863.

I HAVE the honour to inform you two more vessels have arrived at this port with natives from the South Sea Islands, viz. :—

February 21st. Peruvian barque "Teresa," of 212 tons, Captain Munoz, from the Island of Independencia, with 203 natives.

March 9th. Peruvian schooner "Jeoncora," of 98 tons, Captain Perry, from Easter Island, with 43 natives, of whom 24 are women.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. REID.

Inclosure 5 in No. 15.

Mr. Jerningham to Rear-Admiral Kingcome.

Sir, *Lima, April* 16, 1863.

I BEG to have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your communication dated Valparaiso, 31st March, 1863, in which you forward to me copies of two letters which you had received from the officer in command of the "Naiad," at Callao, reporting the arrival of several vessels with cargoes of natives from the islands of the South Pacific, and in which you state that, as there seem to be strong suspicions entertained that these poor people have been inveigled and sold in Peru, you have brought the matter under my notice with a view to making such representations to the Peruvian Government as I may deem necessary.

In answer to this I beg to state that since my arrival on the 2nd of January last, the importation of these Polynesians from the South Pacific has greatly merited my attention, and that I have written several despatches to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs upon it, and am awaiting his Lordship's further orders and instructions on the subject of the Polynesian colonization in Peru.

The instructions which I have brought out with me on this affair I have followed; and I have also made verbally a communication to the late Minister for Foreign Affairs of Peru, on my own responsibility, warning his Excellency against the abstraction of any of these islanders illegally from the places under British jurisdiction or protection.

The activity of the French authorities in the Tahiti group appears to have already

checked these Polynesian speculations; and besides, these people do not thrive in Peru; they die, and won't work even in spite of care and fair treatment; so in all probability there will now be an end of it, and very properly.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

No. 16.

Mr. Jerningham to Earl Russell.—(Received May 29.)

(Extract.) *Lima, April 28, 1863.*

I BEG to forward to your Lordship copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Acting Consul in Callao, Mr. Robertson, stating that a vessel under Peruvian colours had arrived in Callao on the 18th instant, bringing 63 colonists from the Island of Oparo, 8 of whom are females; this vessel, he states, is said to have been chartered by foreigners residing in Lima and Callao, and reported to be owned by a gentleman holding an official situation, but I do not see by Mr. Robertson's letter that he figures as participating in the enterprize. He may have hired out his ship to others.

On the 20th another vessel under Peruvian colours arrived in port from the Island of Pascoa, bringing 21 colonists including 3 women.

By this it appears that the numbers that arrive are decreasing, and most probably the attitude which the French have assumed regarding these speculations will, with the failure of the islanders making suitable colonists, to all appearances cause an end to this traffic which in many cases, it is to be feared, may have been attended with deceit and illegal proceedings.

Since writing the above I have received a letter from Her Majesty's Consul at Tahiti, copy of which I inclose, by which your Lordship will learn what has been the conduct of the captain and doctor of the "Empresa," in obtaining illegally Polynesian colonists, as is shown by the depositions of Henry James Nichols, George Black Duniam, and Henry William Carr, made before the Resident des Marquises.

The British Admiral Kingcome, Commander-in-Chief of Her Majesty's Naval Forces in the Pacific has received an identical communication from Mr. Consul Miller.

I shall consult with the Admiral about making a representation to the Peruvian Government on the matter, especially as Mr. Duniam, the agent of the "Empresa," who recommended legal means being employed to obtain colonists, was ill-treated by the captain and the doctor, and put on shore bound hand and foot, is a British subject.

The French Chargé d'Affaires tells me he is going to take up the matter very seriously, as the outrage occurred, I believe, within the dependencies of the French Government.

The British Admiral says that he means to send a ship to visit the Polynesian Groups.

This will be one of the best means for preventing future scandals.

Inclosure 1 in No. 16.

Acting Consul Robertson to Mr. Jerningham.

(Extract.) *Callao, April 21, 1863.*

I HAVE the honour to inform you that on the 18th instant the "Empresa," a vessel under Peruvian colours, arrived in this port with sixty-three colonists from the Island of Oparo, of these eight are females. This vessel put into Huacho for provisions; I believe there were not any colonists landed there; this vessel is said to have been chartered by foreigners residing in Lima and Callao, and to be owned by a gentleman holding an official position.

Yesterday another vessel, the "José Castro," also under the flag of this republic, arrived in port from the Island of Pascoa, bringing twenty-one colonists, including three women.

Inclosure 2 in No. 16.

Consul Miller to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir, *Papeete, Tahiti, March* 3, 1863.

WITH reference to the letters which I did myself the honour of addressing to you on the 1st and 15th of December last, covering papers upon the subject of the serious abuses that were being committed in these seas by certain ships engaged in collecting South Sea Islanders for conveyance to Peru as labourers.

I have now the honour to transmit to you two numbers of the official newspaper, "Messager de Taiti," containing further particulars showing the fraud and violence which are resorted to in the prosecution of the traffic in question.

You will find in the within papers detailed evidence of the systematic kidnapping of natives, lately practised at the French possessions of the Marquesas Islands by a Peruvian ship called the "Empresa," which succeeded in treacherously securing and making off with about 26 of the natives.

Other important parriculars will be found in the inclosed papers relative to a piratical outrage that was perpetrated in the month of December last by no less than eight vessels (seven Peruvian and one Spanish), assembled together at Easter Island, a solitary and unfrequented spot, about midway between Tahiti and Valparaiso.

It appears that the masters of the vessels last alluded to, finding that the Easter Islanders would no longer go off to their ships, resolved upon a combined expedition for the purpose of seizing them on shore. Their crews, to the number of about 80 men, were in consequence armed and landed, and by surprise and force succeeded, it seems, in capturing and carrying off nearly 200 of the natives, who were afterwards shared out amongst the different ships in proportion to the number of men that had been furnished by each towards the expedition.

Several of the islanders are stated to have been killed in the course of this buccaneering assault upon them.

The greater part of the islanders that were captured were shipped on board one of the vessels present, which was despatched with them to Peru, there it is said to be sold on account of their captors.

The intelligence of these lawless proceedings at Easter Island was brought to this port about a fortnight ago by the Peruvian brigantine "Cora," one of the eight vessels engaged in the transaction. From Easter Island the "Cora" had proceeded to the Island of Rapa, or Oparo, about ten degrees to the south of Tahiti, and there she was seized by the natives and then sent hither, under the circumstances also described in the printed papers inclosed.

I understand that the "Cora" is likely to be kept at Tahiti until instructions shall have been obtained from the French Government upon the case, neither Rapa nor Easter Island being under French protection.

I furthermore learn that the Imperial Commissioner at this place is about to send to the French Chargé d'Affaires at Lima, not only the documentary evidence of the abductions effected by Peruvian ships at the French possession of the Marquesas, but likewise some of the witnesses, and also a Marquesan interpreter, with a view I believe to demanding from the Peruvian Government (under whose licences this so-called emigration is carried forward) the restitution of the kidnapped natives, as well as the repression of such piratical aggressions upon French territories.

Two other Peruvian ships, besides the "Cora," remain meanwhile under detention at this port, namely,

The "Serpiente Marina," charged with having unduly attempted to procure natives from the Gambier Islands (under French protection).

And the "Mercedes de Wholey," seized in the act of illegally carrying off 151 natives of the Paumotu Islands, which are dependencies of Tahiti.

The trial of the latter vessel will take place before the local tribunals in a few das and I shall deem it my duty in due course to inform you of the result as well as of te decision which may be come to with respect to the "Serpiente Marina."

In conclusion, I beg leave to add that by the present mail I transmit copies of the inclosed printed papers to Earl Russell.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. C. MILLER.

No. 17.

Mr. Jerningham to Earl Russell.—(*Received June* 13.)

My Lord, *Lima, May* 12, 1863.

IN my despatch of the 28th ultimo by last mail, in which I forwarded to your Lordship copy of the "Messager de Taiti," I mentioned that I would consult with the Admiral with regard to making a representation to the Peruvian Government on the subject of the Polynesian traffic, especially as a British subject, named G. Black Duniam, had been ill-treated upon the Peruvian vessel "Empresa," by the captain and doctor; however, as I learnt from the French Chargé d'Affaires, that the captain and doctor might escape, I thought it best to lose no time, and I consequently addressed a note to the Peruvian Minister for Foreign Affairs, copy of which I have now the honour to inclose, requesting the Peruvian Government to cause a strict investigation to be made in the matter in which a British subject had been such a sufferer, and that all the legal means in their power should be employed to bring the offenders to justice.

I also inclosed for the information of his Excellency copies of the "Tahiti Messenger," in which amongst other abuses, there was mentioned a most piratical act, reported to have been committed by some of the crews of seven vessels under Peruvian colours at Easter Island, said to have been commanded by the captain of the "Rosa and Carmen," who is stated to be about to arrive at Huacho and Callao, I deemed it right to represent to his Excellency, that Her Majesty's Government, known throughout the whole world for their detestation of every thing in the shape of slavery, were convinced that the Peruvian Government, who had abolished it throughout Peru, would not tolerate such aggressions under her flag, as those said to have occurred at Easter Island, that they would use their earnest endeavours to examine into this affair, punish the guilty and devise such precautions as to render such things for the future impossible.

On the 1st of May instant, I received an answer from Señor Ribeyro, copy of which is also inclosed, and which appears satisfactory. He adds that the Peruvian Government have abolished entirely this traffic, and that with respect to the vessels which are now on their way, they have ordered them, the moment they arrive, to be placed in absolute incommunication, so that they may be subjected to a severe examination.

With regard to the "Empresa," orders have been given to place her in incommunication, and to apprehend the captain and the doctor, and that on the arrival of the "Rosa and Carmen," at Huacho, measures with respect to her should also be taken.

The French Chargé d'Affaires, who has taken the chief part in all the attempts to put an end to these Polynesian abuses, as most of them have been committed at, and on natives of islands under the Protectorate of France, has exerted himself principally in getting the Government to act as they have now done, and to his activity and decision much praise is due.

Messrs. Duniam and Carr have arrived at Lima, and have commenced their prosecution.

The captain of the "Empresa," a Frenchman, has just been arrested, but the doctor has not yet been secured.

I have given to the Admiral copies of my note, and of that which I received from Señor Ribeyro. He has informed me that he has ordered a ship, I think, the "Tribune," to make a voyage to the Polynesian Groups; but I believe she is to come to Callao before proceeding to the islands.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 17.

Mr. Jerningham to Señor Ribeyro.

Lima, April 30, 1863.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to forward to the Peruvian Minister for Foreign Affairs, copies of the "Messager de Tahiti" of the 21st and 28th of February last,

which he has lately received from Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Tahiti, in which his Excellency will perceive, by the declaration of George Black Duniam, a British subject, what was the ill-treatment which that person, together with Mr. Carr, experienced on board the Peruvian ship "Empresa," engaged in the Polynesian emigration business.

As this vessel has arrived in the port of Callao, and as the conduct of the captain and the doctor appears, from the above-mentioned declaration, highly criminal with regard to Duniam and Carr, besides the illegal means which they appear to have employed for obtaining colonists, which must be condemned by every humane and liberal-minded Government; the undersigned begs to call his Excellency's attention to these affairs, requesting of the Peruvian Goverment a strict investigation into the matter, in which a British subject has been such a sufferer, and that all the legal means in their power should be employed to bring the offenders to justice.

There is also mention made in the same journal of the 28th February, of a most piratical act committed by some of the crews of the seven vessels under Peruvian colours at Easter Island; they were said to be commanded by the captain of the "Rosa and Carmen," which vessel it is reported is shortly expected at Huacho, on her way to Callao.

In bringing this outrage, as reported in the "Messager," to the notice of the Peruvian Government, the undersigned begs to state that Her Majesty's Government, who are known all over the world for their detestation of every thing in the shape of slavery, are convinced that the Peruvian Government, who proclaim the most philanthropic principles, and have abolished slavery throughout the whole of Peru, will not tolerate such aggressions under her flag, as that reported to have taken place at Easter Island, and that they will use their most earnest endeavours to examine into the matter, punish the guilty, and devise such precautions as to render such things impossible for the future.

The undersigned begs that the two newspapers above mentioned may be later returned to him.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

Inclosure 2 in No. 17.

Señor Ribeyro to Mr. Jerningham.

(Translation.) *Lima, May* 1, 1863.

I HAVE just received the note which, under date of yesterday, you have done me the honour to address to me, regarding the ill-treatment which it is stated the British subjects, Duniam and Carr, have suffered on board of the "Empresa," and the irregularities committed in the contracts of the Polynesians. Your Honour adds that the "Rosa and Carmen" would soon arrive at Huacho and Callao, and that you hope proceedings will be taken to examine into the facts, to punish those who may be found culpable, and to adopt measures that will make impossible for the future a repetition of those abuses.

The Government, of their own accord, convinced that the introduction of Polynesians is of little advantage to the country, and that it is subject to many objections, have abolished entirely that traffic, and regarding the vessels which are now on the road, have ordered that the moment they arrive they be placed in absolute incommunication, so that they may be subjected to a severe examination.

Respecting the "Empresa," it has been ordered since the 29th ultimo, that she be placed in incommunication, and that the captain, the doctor, and the whole crew be subjected to trial, the most efficacious orders having been given for the apprehension of the accused, the prompt examination of the facts, and the exemplary punishment of those who may be found guilty.

Besides the measures that have been indicated, I have just passed to the Commandant-General of Marine, copy of your note, so that its contents may be taken into consideration, and that immediately on the arrival of the vessel you indicate at Huacho, the measures recorded respecting her may be taken.

According to the desires manifested by you, I return the numbers of the "Messenger" of Tahiti.

(Signed) JUAN ANTO. RIBEYRO.

No. 18.

Mr. Jerningham to Earl Russell.—(Received June 28.)

(Extract.) *Lima, May 29, 1863.*

DURING a conversation which I had some days ago with M. Lesseps, the French Chargé d'Affaires, when referring to the question of the Polynesian emigration abuses, he stated that he thought that in the face of such occurrences it was highly advisable that the diplomatic body should meet and announce publicly their opinion upon the inhuman conduct of some of the parties concerned in this traffic.

I coincided with his opinion, and I intimated that I conceived it would be also advisable to make the meeting as general as possible, and invite the heads of the Consular body in Lima, as well as those of diplomatic rank.

M. Lesseps, M. Eldredge, the Hawaiian Chargé d'Affaires, and myself went to Mr. Robinson, the United States' Minister, who is doyen of the Diplomatic Body in Lima, and consulted him upon the subject of the meeting. However, Mr. Robinson did not see the exact necessity of it, and said that he had already communicated his views on the matter to the Peruvian Government; that he imagined, that if each nation did the same separately, it would have the effect desired, and that a meeting for the purpose of announcing a general opinion was, it appeared to him, a work of supererogation.

Besides he informed us that the occupations which took up his time for the approaching mail would prevent him from being able to attend personally at any meeting for the above purpose; yet, however, if such took place, and something was decided on which he could sign, he would have no objection to append his signature.

It was afterwards decided that the meeting of the Diplomatic and Consular Bodies should take place in the house of Senor Canevaro, the Italian Consul-General, who had agreed to its taking place at his residence, at which M. Eldredge, the Hawaiian Chargé d'Affaires, who is next in point of precedency to the doyen, Mr. Robinson, explained to the gentlemen present the nature of what it was desirable to express in a collective document.

A good deal of discussion took place; but after three or four "seances" they finally came to a decision upon the matter, and a document was signed (Mr. Robinson's signature was procured also), a copy and translation of which I now beg to forward to your Lordship.

M. Lembake, the Swedish Consul-General, declined to take any part in the proceedings.

The disapprobation of the abuses which have occurred in carrying out the Polynesian emigration by some unprincipled individuals is embodied in this collective procès-verbal, and at the same time satisfaction is expressed at what the Peruvian Government are now doing in the investigation, which they have inaugurated for the sake of punishing the guilty.

The Chargé d'Affaires of France and the Chargé d'Affaires of the United States of Columbia were deputed to present the above to his Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Peru, who received it with politeness, and gave an answer, copy and translation of which is hereto affixed.

M. Lesseps has been extremely active in the questions which he has had with the Peruvian Government regarding the Polynesians under French protection.

He has sent a lot of these people to the hospital in Lima, where I believe many have died, and he has exercised much charity in succouring those that were on board a vessel in the port of Callao, where, as they could not be disposed of, nobody now being desirous of taking Polynesians, they were suffering from want of clothes and possibly from bad living.

None of these being British subjects I do not see how far I am authorized in interfering, except by moral reprobation of acts evidently inhuman in their consequences, and which ought to be properly punished by those to whom it legally pertains to inflict the deserved castigation.

I beg to inclose to your Lordship a copy of Mr. Acting Consul Robertson's letter to me of the 15th instant, respecting Canacas which have been landed at Huacho by the "Empresa," and which had sought the protection of the French flag.

Some English sailors appear to be among the crew of the "Empresa," who have been arrested and are in prison; as they embarked willingly on board a vessel under a foreign

flag, they must undergo their trial with the rest of the crew.

I shall instruct Mr. Robertson to see that they are treated justly.

Inclosure 1 in No. 18.

Declaration of the Diplomatic and Consular Bodies at Lima.

(Translation.)

THE Diplomatic and Consular Corps resident in Lima met on the 13th of May, 1863, in this city, and declared:

1. That the Diplomatic and Consular Corps deplore as deeply as the Government of Peru, the horrible abuses committed in the Polynesian Islands by expeditions that tried to obtain labourers, in violation of the laws and of the licences given to bring those labourers to this Republic.

2. That they are happy to express their satisfaction at the suitable measures taken by the Government of Peru to prohibit said traffic, carried on in violation of the laws and of the licences conceded.

3. That they are also happy to assure their respective Governments, that the measures taken by the Government of Peru have supported morality, justice, and humanity.

In continuation, they decided that this act be copied in the records of the diplomatic corps, and that after being signed, a copy be presented to his Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs and President of the Council of Peru, by the Chargés d'Affaires and Consuls-General of France and the United States of Columbia; every member of said corps, moreover, sending a copy to his own Government.

(Signed) CHRISTOPHER ROBINSON, *Envoy Extraordinary and Minitster Plenipotentiary of the United States of America.*
THOMAS ELDREDGE, *Chargé d'Affaires and Consul-General of Hawaii.*
EDMUND P. DE LESSEPS, *Chargé d'Affaires and Consul-General of France.*
WILLIAM STAFFORD JERNINGHAM, *Chargé d'Affaires and Consul-General of Great Britain.*
JUAN DUARTE DA PONTE RIBEYRO, *Chargé d'Affaires of Brazil.*
PROSPERO PEREIRA GAMBA, *Chargé d'Affaires and Consul-General of the United States of Columbia.*
CELEDONIO URREA, *Chargé d'Affaires of Ecuador.*
J. CANEVARO, *Consul-General of Italy.*
W. BRAUNS, *Consul-General of Hamburgh.*
G. ESCARDO, *Consul-General of the Argentine Confederation.*
A. EVARISTO DE ORNELLAS, *Consul-General of Portugal.*
J. GILDEMEISTER, *Consul-General of Bremen.*
A. GREULICH, *Consul of Frankfort.*
TH. MULLER, *Consul of Prussia and Hanover.*
F. OYAGUE, *Consul of Venezuela.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 18.

Señor Ribeyro to Mr. Robinson.

(Translation.) *Lima, May* 22, 1863.

THE Undersigned, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Peru, has the honour to address the diplomatic and consular corps residing in this city through the medium of his Excellency the Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America, in order to express to them, in the name of his Government, the sentiments of gratitude for the declaration made by them, acknowledging the benevolent disposition of this Cabinet to prevent, in conformity with the precepts of right and justice, the unfortunate events that have happened through the introduction of labourers from Polynesia.

Peru and its present administration have deeply deplored these abuses committed on the introduction of the Polynesians, which introduction was permitted with the intention to work our fields and to improve the condition of those unhappy beings by the blessings of civilization; and their grief was augmented seeing that some men under the shelter of licences legally conceded for lawful purposes, exposed the dignity and honour of the country.

The Government has fulfilled its duties, ordering judicial inquiries to be made into these offences, and prohibiting henceforward an immigration that has proved to be insufficient for the improvements intended for the national agriculture. It will not cease to take measures which, respecting at the same time all rights legally acquired, shall satisfy the laws of humanity, the prescriptions of social morality, and the respectability of the Peruvian nation.

Your Excellency will be pleased to acquaint both corps with this communication, as a proof of reciprocity and esteem.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. E. RIBEYRO.

Inclosure 3 in No. 18.

Acting Consul Robertson to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir, *Callao, May* 15, 1863.

IN continuation of the subject of the despatch I had the honour to address to you on the 21st ultimo, I have now to report that the supposition I entertained that the "Empresa" had not landed any Canacas at Huacho turns out to be erroneous, as by the steamer "Inca," which arrived here from Huacho on the 13th instant, several Canacas, who had been brought from different islands of the Polynesian Group in that vessel, came to this port solely to place themselves under the protection of the French flag; they consist of both sexes, and from their statement there appears to be little or no doubt that they have been kidnapped; since their arrival here they have been kindly and well taken care of by M. des Noyers, the French Consul, who has temporarily provided the men with an asylum on board the "Galathée," and the women were sent to Lima to-day to be placed under the charge of the Sœurs de Charité.

In a private note which I have this day received from M. des Noyers, he informs me that "when the 'Empresa' visited the Island Wapoa (Mankwa) she had the British flag flying," this fact is sworn to by the Canacas. Four seamen, who declared themselves to be British subjects, William Cole, John McKenzie, Laurence Silva, and Robert Walker are now detained in custody, accused as accomplices in the kidnapping of these Polynesians. They have applied to me to use my influence with the authorities to procure their release, but whether innocent or guilty as far as the kidnapping is concerned, they are no doubt subject to the same trial, as they willingly shipped in a vessel under a foreign flag, and must have been aware or could have ascertained the nature, of the intended voyage. For these reasons, and also that the ends of justice may not be interfered with, I have declined to recognize their appeal, and shall continue to do so unless I receive your orders to the contrary.

In conclusion, I should add that there are other Canacas who were left behind in Huacho by the "Empresa," are expected here to place themselves under French protection.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. W. ROBERTSON.

No. 19.

Mr. Jerningham to Earl Russell.—(Received July 15.)

My Lord, *Lima, June 12, 1863.*

I BEG to have the honour to forward to your Lordship copy and translation of a note from the President of the Council and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Señor Ribeyro, addressed to the Minister of the Home Department, General Freyre, which has appeared in the official journal "El Peruano," stating that the Peruvian Government would fulfil a duty to humanity and adopt a measure of prudence if they signified through the Prefectures to those Polynesians in Peru who are in complete independence, and to the masters who are willing to release those in their service without compensation, that those emigrants upon presenting themselves would be conveyed back to their country in one of the vessels of the State, and requesting his Excellency to consult with the Vice-President respecting this proposition, as also as to the means of carrying it into effect, calculated as it is, in his opinion, to produce very salutary results.

I also inclose General Freyre's answer, intimating that he had taken the orders of his Excellency the Vice-President, charged with the Executive Power, who had been pleased to direct that orders should be given for carrying out the proposition of Señor Ribeyro, and that a vessel commodious and safe should be got ready for the object above-mentioned.

I also subjoin copy of a communication which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at Callao, informing me that the French corvette "Diamant," had arrived there from Chancay, whither she had proceeded for the purpose of collecting such Canacas as might be there, or in the neigbourhood, who might be found willing to be conveyed hither, as he states, to be placed under the immediate protection of the French authorities; and it would appear that 34 have arrived, including females; two died during the short voyage, and 15 are in a bad state of health, some not being expected to survive over a few days. He says the state some of these unfortunates were found in was repugnant in the extreme, some of them presenting the mere appearance of skeletons.

Such of these Canacas as are healthy, brought by the French war vessel "Diamant," have been placed on board the French store ship, and the sick have been forwarded to the hospital.

Mr. Robertson adds that a Peruvian vessel, the "Barbara Gomez," had arrived in Callao from the Island of Pascua (Easter Island), with 23 natives on board, and that she had been placed "incomunicado," in quarantine, by the Peruvian authorities.

M. Lesseps has, I believe, caused application to be made to the local authorities for persons under his orders to go on board to see whether these Polynesians have been brought hither in a rightful way; but the answer received was to the effect that the vessel being placed "incomunicado," the decision of the Peruvian Government must be taken respecting her, or something to that effect.

M. Lesseps informs me that he proceeded himself in the "Diamant" to Ancou, on its trip to Chancay, when the Government Commission, attended by a French delegate, went ashore to search for such Polynesians as might be in those parts, and for whom they went expressly, to convey to Lima, and he assures me that many were found in a most deplorable state and excited great commiseration.

He says the police behaved very well, and 34 were taken away from those parts.

He tells me he has now addressed a note to the Government, requesting that all the Polynesians, under French protection I suppose, who have been imported should be directly given up for the purpose of sending those who have survived, and are able to go, back to their own country.

It is probable now that there will be no more expeditions for bringing Polynesians to Peru; the experiment has failed; abuses have been committed by some individuals in procuring them, and it is to be feared, when it had been found out that they would not work and were men of no use from the state of despondency they were in, that they have been left to eke out their miserable existence; if not, why should so many of them have been found in the dreadful state described above?

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 19.

Señor Ribeyro to General Freyre.

(Translation.) *Lima, May* 26, 1863.

YOU are, no doubt, aware that the immigration of Polynesians has been so little advantageous to the country, that many of these unfortunates perish miserably, and others are of so little use to their masters, that, according to report, some of them prefer to discharge them without any compensation whatever.

I believe, therefore, that the Government would fulfil a duty of humanity, would adopt a measure of prudence, and would be consistent with the conduct they have observed in this delicate matter, if they invited, through the Prefecture, the Polynesians who are in complete independence, and the masters who may be willing to voluntarily release them without compensation, so that the said emigrants may present themselves, and be conveyed to their country on board one of the vessels of the national navy.

You, Sir, will be pleased to resolve with his Excellency the Vice-President upon this proposition, which in my opinion is calculated to produce very salutary results, and at the same time upon the means of carrying it into effect.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JUAN ANTONIO RIBEYRO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 19.

General Freyre to Señor Ribeyro.

(Translation.) *Lima, May* 28, 1863.

THE measure which you, Sir, have been pleased to indicate to me in your despatch of the 26th instant, regarding the Polynesian colonists, being so prudent, as well as humane, his Excellency the second Vice-President of the Republic, charged with the Executive Power, has been pleased to direct that through my office, the necessary orders be given, so that by the means of the local authorities, the colonists who are in complete independence, and the masters who may wish to release these emigrants voluntarily and without any compensation whatever, may be invited to present themselves to the said authorities, so that the Government may restore them to the country from whence they came, on board of one of the vessels of the State, which resolution I have communicated to the Minister of War and Marine, so that he may opportunely cause to be got ready a commodious and safe vessel for the object indicated.

I have the honour to acquaint you, sir, of this for your information, and in reply to your despatch referred to.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) MANUEL FREYRE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 19.

Acting Consul Robertson to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir, *Callao, June* 11, 1863.

I HAVE the honour to report that the French steam corvette "Diamant," arrived in port yesterday from Chancay, whither she had proceeded for the purpose of collecting such Canacas as might be there or in the neighbourhood found willing to be brought to this port to be placed under the immediate protection of the French authorities; the "Diamant" has brought 34 Canacas, including females and 1 infant, 2 died during the voyage, and 15 have arrived in a bad state of health, some of whom are not expected to survive over a few days; the state that some of these unfortunate beings were found in, was repugnant in the extreme, some of them are mere skeletons.

I have likewise the honour to report the arrival of the Peruvian barque "Barbara Gomez," from Pascua Island, with 23 natives, 14 of whom are females; this vessel is "incomunicado" in quarantine.

I should add that such of the Canacas, brought by the "Diamant," as are healthy, have been sent on board a French store ship, and the sick to hospital.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. W. ROBERTSON.

No. 20.

Mr. Jerningham to Earl Russell.—(*Received August* 28.)

My Lord, *Lima, July* 12, 1863.

I BEG to have the honour to forward to your Lordship copy of a communication from Her Majesty's Consul at Callao, by which your Lordship will see that three more ships from the Polynesian Islands have arrived with colonists, one under Spanish and the others under Peruvian colours.

The substance of this Report is gathered from the office of the Captain of the Port at Callao.

I have been informed to-day that another vessel, under the Peruvian flag, with I believe 200 Polynesians, arrived at Callao last evening.

I will inquire of the Minister for Foreign Affairs what steps the Peruvian Govern ment mean to adopt, as, according to their own declaration, which I forwarded to your Lordship in my despatch of the 12th May last, they have abolished the Polynesian traffic.

The "Tribune," Captain Lord Gilford, left Callao last week for the Polynesian Islands.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

Inclosure in No. 20.

Acting Consul Robertson to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir, *Callao, July* 21, 1863.

I HAVE the honour to report that the Spanish barque "Rosa y Carmen," arrived in this port on the 10th instant from Roul Island ; this vessel has brought 128 colonists, amongst whom are 35 females and 15 children ; that the Peruvian barque "Urmeneta y Ramos" arrived on the 17th instant from Necua Island with 31 colonists, and that on the 19th instant the "General Prim," also a Peruvian barque, arrived from the Island of Frinatehy with 174 colonists, of this number 73 are females.

The substance of this Report is gathered from the office of the Captain of the Port.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. W. ROBERTSON.

No. 21.

Earl Russell to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir, *Foreign Office, March* 18, 1864.

IN your despatch of the 12th May last you inclosed to me a note from the Peruvian Government, stating that that Government had abolished the system which had been adopted for the introduction into Peru of natives of the Polynesian Islands, and which had given rise to such horrible abuses.

I received this intelligence with satisfaction, and approved of the steps taken by you in carrying out the instructions which you had received from me in this matter.

You will continue to bear the subject in mind, as it is not impossible that, although the system has been abolished, steps may be taken indirectly to carry out the objects contemplated by the parties concerned, thus causing fresh evils and crimes. In such case it will be your duty again to remonstrate on the part of Her Majesty's Government, and I shall be glad to learn that your Diplomatic and Consular colleagues have co-operated in your representations.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL

CORRESPONDENCE respecting Removal of Inhabitants of Polynesian Islands to Peru.

Presented to the House of Commons by Command of Her Majesty, in pursuance of their Address dated February 16, 1864.

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